



INSIGHTS

107th Congress

August 14, 2001

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INSIGHTS is prepared expressly for the Department of Energy's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP). The purpose of ***INSIGHTS*** is to provide FEMP management staff with timely information on legislative activities relevant to the program. ***INSIGHTS*** is prepared for FEMP by Energetics, Incorporated, (202) 479-2748.

I. WEEKLY SUMMARY

CONGRESS

Congress is on recess until September 4.

SENATE

The Senate has scheduled a field hearing on renewable energy for August 13 (refer to “Committee Activity”).

WHITE HOUSE

No new activity of interest to report.

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II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

HOUSE

Comments or Action Items

Refer to “Legislation Chart” for summary of bills introduced before the House recessed for the month of August. Take special note of the following bill:

- *H.R. 2710 – Federal Asset Management Improvement Act of 2001*

SENATE

Comments or Action Items

Refer to “Legislation Chart” for summary of bills introduced before the Senate recessed for the month of August. Take special note of the following bills of interest

- *S. 1358 – Federal Facility Management Act of 2001*
- *S. 1280 – Veterans’ Hospital Emergency Repair Act*
- *S. 1333 – Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Investment Act of 2001*

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STATUS OF FY 2002 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(In Billions)

HOUSE

SENATE

Jurisdiction/ FY 2002 Budget Request	302(b) Allocations / Approved Funding Level	Bill No.	Full Cmte.	Floor	Conf.	302(b) Allocations /Approved Funding Level	Bill No.	Full Cmte.	Floor	Conf.
Agriculture \$ 15.409	\$ 15.519 \$ 15.669	<i>H.R.</i> 2330	June 13	July 13		\$ 16.092 \$16.4	<i>S.</i> 1191	July 17	<i>Pend- ing</i>	
Commerce \$ 37.944	\$ 38.541 \$38.5	<i>H.R.</i> 2500	July 13	July 19		\$38.760 \$41.49	<i>S.</i> 1215	July 19	<i>Pend- ing</i>	
Defense \$300.962	\$300.292					\$298.568				
Energy and Water Development \$ 22.517	\$ 23.704 \$ 23.7	<i>H.R.</i> 2311	June 25	June 28		\$ 25.129 \$ 25.1	<i>S.</i> 1171	July 12	July 19	
Interior \$ 18,092	\$ 18.941 \$ 18.9	<i>H.R.</i> 2217	June 13	June 21		\$ 18.527 \$ 18.5	<i>H.R.</i> 2217	June 28	July 12	
Labor / HHS \$115.682	\$119.758					\$119.000				
Military Construction \$ 9.650	\$ 10.155					\$ 9.649				
Transportation \$ 14.891	\$ 14.893 \$ 14.9	<i>H.R.</i> 2299	June 20	June 26		\$ 15,579 <i>S.</i> 1178	July 12	August 1		
Treasury \$ 16.488	\$ 16.880 \$ 17.0	<i>H.R.</i> 2590	July 17	July 25		\$ 16.972	July 26			
VA/HUD \$ 83.683	\$ 84.159 <i>H.R.</i> 2620	July 17	July 31			\$ 84.053 \$ 84.05 <i>S.</i> 1216	July 19	August 2		
Total 302(b) Allocations/ FY 2002 Budget Request \$658.792	\$661.300					\$661.300				

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III. NEW LEGISLATION

HOUSE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
H.R. 2694	<i>Department of Environmental Protection Act</i>	August 1	Stephen Horn (R/CA) <i>Committee on Government Reform; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure</i>	Referred to Committee on Government Reform
	Key Provisions:	Redesignates the Environmental Protection Agency as Department of Environmental Protection and for other purposes.		
H.R. 2703	<i>No Short Title</i>	August 1	Johnny Isakson (R/GA) <i>Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure</i>	Referred to Committee on Ways and Means
	Key Provisions:	Suspends temporarily the duty on certain steam turbines and generators for power generation.		
H.R. 2710	<i>The Federal Asset Management Improvement Act of 2001</i>	August 1	Pete Sessions (R/AL)	Referred to Committee on Government Reform
	Key Provisions:	Requires the establishment of performance measures to determine effectiveness of Federal property management. Establishes public-private partnerships to lease to develop, rehabilitate or renovate facilities on leased property. Requires GSA Administrator to submit report to Congress assessing effectiveness of agreements in enhancing value of the properties.		
H.R. 2731	<i>School Energy Assistance Act of 2001</i>	August 2	Brian Baird (D/WA) <i>Committee on Science; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure</i>	Referred to Committee on Education and Workforce
	Key Provisions:	Directs the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, to establish a 2-year grant program to provide reimbursements for schools that have experienced an increase in annual energy costs of at least 15 percent over the 1999–2000 academic year. In order to qualify, eligible entities must be able to demonstrate the need for the funds and have reduced their annual energy consumption on a per capita basis by at least 10 percent from the previous academic year.		
H.R. 2757	<i>No Short Title</i>	August 2	Jane Harman (D/CA)	Referred to Committee on Energy and Commerce

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
	Key Provisions:	Provides for refunds of certain overcharges of electricity in the Western Region of the Unites States.		
H.R. 2774	<i>Renewable Energy Loan Guarantee Act of 2001</i>	August 2	Rick Larson (D/WA)	Referred to Committee on Financial Services
	Key Provisions:	Establishes the Renewable Energy Source Facility Guaranteed Loan Program to provide loan guarantees for qualified renewable energy source facilities. Qualified facilities are those that generate electric energy affecting interstate commerce using solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, incremental hydropower, or geothermal energy. Establishes Loan Guarantee Board to be chaired by DOE Secretary or Secretary designee.		
H.R. 2814	<i>Interstate Transmission Act</i>	August 2	Tom Sawyer (D/OH) <i>Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power</i>	Referred to Committee on Energy and Commerce and Committee on Ways and Means
	Key Provisions:	Amends Part III of the <i>Federal Power Act</i> : Includes standards for establishing an economically efficient transmission service and for the expansion of transmission networks to support competitive electricity markets, ensure reliability, and modernize regulation. Provisions include the promotion of electric energy transmission reliability and oversight; standards for establishing rates of transmission; promotion of the voluntary development of regional transmission organizations; and promotion of state and Federal authority to site transmission facilities.		

SENATE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
S. 1280	<i>Veterans' Hospital Emergency Repair Act</i>	July 31	Max Cleland (D/GA) <i>Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation</i>	Referred to Committee on Veterans' Affairs
	Key Provisions:	Authorizes Secretary of Veterans' Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, and updating major medical facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical offices.		
S. 1294	<i>Climate Change Risk Management Act of 2001</i>	August 1	Frank Murkowski (R/AK) <i>Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Ranking Member</i>	Referred to Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
	Key Provisions:	Directs the President, in consultation with Federal agencies and Congress, to develop and implement a new national energy policy to manage the risk of potential climate change that provides for long-term energy security; directs President to submit a strategy report to Congress to be reviewed by national academics (i.e. the National Research Council, the National Academy of Sciences, The National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine). Establishes Climate Technology Research, Development, Demonstration and Deployment Program and the International Energy Technology Deployment Program. Strengthens provisions of <i>Energy Policy Act of 1992</i> and the <i>Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974</i> with respect to climate change including the establishment of an Office of Applied Energy Technology and Greenhouse Gas Management within DOE.		
S. 1306	<i>Highway Trust Fund Recovery Act of 2001</i>	August 2	Max Baucus (D/MT) <i>Committee on Environment and Public Works</i>	Referred to Committee Finance
	Key Provisions:	Amends <i>Internal Revenue Code of 1986</i> : transfers all excise taxes imposed on alcohol fuels to the Highway Trust Fund.		
S. 1333	<i>Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Investment Act of 2001</i>	August 2	Max Baucus (D/MT) <i>Committee on Environment and Public Works</i>	Referred to Committee Finance
	Key Provisions:	Establishes a National Electric System Benefits Board with the Chairperson selected by the Secretary of Energy. The Board will include an electric systems benefit manager for a maximum of three years. Establishes a National Electric Systems Benefits Fund to provide matching funds to states to support state system benefit programs relating to renewable energy sources, low-income household assistance for energy needs, energy conservation and efficiency, and research		

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
	<p>and development in the aforementioned areas. FERC shall determine wire charge amounts to be paid into the fund to pay matching funds to states and to operate the board.</p> <p>Establishes incremental renewable energy generation standards for each retail electric supplier increasing to 20 percent by 2020. Includes net metering provisions. Requires that the Secretary of Energy establish a disclosure system for retail customers, which includes generation source portfolios, emissions data, and price terms.</p>			
S. 1358	<i>Federal Facility Energy Management Act of 2001</i>	August 3	Evan Bayh (D/IN) <i>Committee on Energy and Natural Resources</i>	Referred to Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
	<p>Key Provisions: Amends Federal Energy Management Program requirements under the <i>National Energy Conservation Policy Act</i>; enacts into law certain requirements of Executive Order 13123:</p> <p><u>PERFORMANCE STANDARDS</u> Revises Federal building energy efficiency performance standards to require that new commercial buildings and multi-family high rise residential buildings be constructed to meet the most recent ASHRAE Standard 90.1. Requires that new residential buildings be constructed to exceed energy efficiency standards required under the most recent version of the International Residential Code by not less than 10 percent.</p> <p><u>FEDERAL LABELING PROGRAM</u> Requires energy labeling program for new Federal buildings.</p> <p><u>SOLAR DATA</u> Requires collection of interval solar data.</p> <p><u>ESTABLISHES NEW OFFICE</u> Establishes Office of Federal Energy Productivity within DOE to be headed by the Assistant Secretary for Federal Energy Productivity. Requires that the head of each Federal agency submit an energy preparedness and energy emergency response plan to the Assistant Secretary for Federal Energy Productivity. Establishes that the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the President and Congress an annual report on the ability of each agency to reduce energy use on an emergency basis and ability to perform the agency mission during such a period. Requires that the Assistant Secretary appoint a liaison to the Department of Defense. The liaison will coordinate energy efficiency measures and energy efficiency reporting to the President and Congress into the operation of the Department of Defense.</p> <p><u>ANNUAL REPORT</u> Provides that an annual report be presented to Congress, which includes the following information: energy expenditures; investments and savings of each Federal agency; obstacles to meeting energy efficiency requirements; and an accounting of energy-consuming products procured by each Federal agency, indicating which energy-consuming products procured by the Federal agency during the preceding year were Energy Star products, FEMP designated products, or neither.</p> <p><u>ENERGY AUDITS AND RELATED MEASURES</u> Requires an audit of the energy management programs of each Federal agency every three years. Requires that the energy consumption per gross square foot of the Federal buildings of the agency in calendar years 2002 through 2011 be incrementally reduced, as compared with the energy consumption per gross square foot of the Federal buildings of the agency in calendar year 2000. Requires review and revision of energy performance requirement. Requires each agency to meter and submeter energy use. Requires that by January 1, 2003 each agency shall use interval consumption data to measure on a real-time or daily basis consumption of electricity in the Federal buildings of the agency.</p>			

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
	<p><u>AGENCY BUDGET REQUEST</u> Requires the head of each agency to include a budget for the electric and other energy and compliance costs in the budget submission to the President. Requires each agency head to include a statement in the budget request concerning whether or not Federal buildings meet or exceed revised building energy efficiency standards.</p> <p><u>ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM</u> Establishes Energy and Water Conservation Incentive Program within DOE to pay for the cost of providing energy and water for Federal buildings under jurisdiction of the agency. Establishes that the Secretaries of Energy and Defense and the Director of OMB issue guidelines and establish methodologies to establish a baseline amount of energy and water expenditures, consisting of the amounts that would be expended without implementation of conservation project. Establishes that agencies include baseline amounts in budget submissions. Requires annual report on use of amounts.</p> <p><u>ACCOUNTING FOR ENERGY USE</u> Requires that DOE Secretary, EIA Administrator, GSA Administrator, and Secretary of Defense conduct a study, to be submitted to Congress, to develop recommendations on the most accurate means of accounting for energy use in Federal facilities. Includes provisions for the purchase of Energy Star and FEMP designed products. Requires development and revision of catalog listings of Energy Star products and FEMP designated products. Requires that energy consuming products made available to any executive agency from General Services Administration or the Defense Logistics Agency listings are Energy Star Products or FEMP designated product, if available .</p> <p><u>FEDERAL ENERGY BANK</u> Establishes Federal Energy Bank in the U.S. Treasury.</p> <p><u>U.S. CAPITOL</u> Requires energy and water saving measures in Congressional buildings.</p> <p><u>FEDERAL FLEET</u> Establishes average fuel economy standards for covered vehicles (i.e. passenger automobiles and light duty motor vehicles) acquired by the Federal Government beginning in FY 2005; establishes that the average fuel economy shall be not less than 3 miles per gallon greater than the average fuel economy of the covered vehicles acquired by the Federal agency in FY 2000. Requires that each Federal agency use alternative fuels for at least 50 percent of their total volume of motor fuel needed to operate covered vehicles. Establishes that, beginning in fiscal year 2005, at least 50 percent of the total annual volume used to operate duel vehicles shall consist of alternative fuels.</p>			

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IV. ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES

No new initiatives of interest to report.

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V. HEARINGS SCHEDULE

HOUSE – APPROPRIATIONS

No new hearings or mark ups of interest have been scheduled.

HOUSE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

No new hearings or mark ups of interest have been scheduled.

HOUSE FLOOR ACTIVITY

No debates or votes of interest have been scheduled.

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SENATE – APPROPRIATIONS

No new hearings or mark ups of interest have been scheduled.

SENATE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

Renewable Energy On August 13 the Subcommittee on Water and Power (Committee on Energy and Natural Resources) will conduct a field hearing in Seattle, Washington. Members will receive testimony on the role of the Bonneville Power Administration in promoting energy conservation and renewable energy.

SENATE – CONFIRMATION

No new candidate hearings or votes of interest have been scheduled.

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